

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1-15. (canceled)

16. (currently amended) An isolated chimpanzee erythropoietin (CHEPO) polypeptide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of: (a) the sequence of amino acid residues from 1 or 28 to 193 of ~~Figure 2~~ (SEQ ID NO: 2); (b) the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 18; and (c) the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 34.

17-21. (canceled)

22. (previously presented) A chimeric molecule comprising a CHEPO polypeptide of Claim 16 fused to a heterologous amino acid sequence.

23. (original) The chimeric molecule of Claim 22, wherein said heterologous amino acid sequence is an epitope tag sequence.

24. (original) The chimeric molecule of Claim 22, wherein said heterologous amino acid sequence is a Fc region of an immunoglobulin.

25-29. (canceled)

30. (currently amended) A composition of matter comprising  
(a) a chimpanzee erythropoietin (CHEPO) polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of (i) the sequence of amino acid residues 1 or 18 to 193 of ~~Figure 2~~ (SEQ ID NO: 2), (ii) the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 18; and (iii) the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 34), ~~(b) an agonist to a CHEPO polypeptide of (a), (c) an antagonist to a CHEPO polypeptide of (a), or (d) an antibody specifically binding a polypeptide of (a),~~ in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

31-39. (canceled)

40. (previously presented) The chimeric molecule of claim 24 wherein said immunoglobulin is an IgG.

41. (previously presented) The chimeric molecule of Claim 40 wherein said IgG is IgG1.

42-44. (canceled)